Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace paragraph [0004] with the following rewritten amended paragraph:

[0004] EAI suppliers typically offer end point solutions for managing business process interactions between end points within a computer network. Although a specific enterprise software package may be designed to transparently handle diverse business processes carried out by two or more end nodes, each specific enterprise software package requires releasing customized connectors or adapters which will work for the specific business processes and applications used by the specific end nodes. As a result, these enterprise solutions are not easily scalable. Additionally, scores of adapters need to be built for each vendor (e.g. Oracle, SAP, and PeopleSoft) (for example, Oracle corporation of Redwood Shores, CA, SAP AG of Waldorf, Germany, and PeopleSoft Inc. of Pleasanton, CA). As each supplier releases new versions of their software, EAI vendors find themselves unable to gain traction under the burden of supporting their existing adapters.

Please replace paragraph [0007] with the following rewritten amended paragraph:

[0007] Some providers merely host and manage third-party packaged software for their customers ("managed hosters"). Others build new applications from the ground up to take advantage of the benefits and cost-savings of web service provider model. Service providers enjoy the profit margins and operational scalability of consumer Web companies like eBay and Yahoo eBay Inc. of San Jose, CA, and Yahoo! Inc. of Sunnyvale, CA, while at the same time offering the feature sets of complex enterprise software applications such as software applications by PeopleSoft and Siebel Systems Inc. of San Mateo, CA.